

August 13, 2019

Dear Families,

Welcome Back! I'd like to send a big thank you to all who have helped in preparation for the beginning of our school year, especially our teachers and staff! We had a wonderful Back to School Blast Mass and Open House on Sunday and I hope you enjoyed your time talking with teachers and friends.

Each year, we set a theme for the school year. This year, we want to build upon last year's theme of being an overcomer. We focused on teaching our resilience and grit. We cannot make the world perfect for our children, but we can teach them to overcome the challenges and difficulties they may face.

This year, our theme is "Everybody Counts." We wish to convey to our students that we not only need to overcome our disappointments, but empathize with our neighbors and consider the challenges they may be facing. The book of Mark speaks of the greatest commandments, "you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength." The second is this: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these."

What greater lesson for a school to focus in our world today than "love your neighbor as yourself." We are teaching students to put the needs of others before their own; to empathize with the trials friends and strangers; to find Christ in others and to treat them with dignity and respect. Anytime when we are teaching empathy, we are teaching respect and combating bullying behavior.

Our theme this year is directly related to the goals of our Strategic Plan, which we will continue to share with you this year. This year, we continue to strive to be servant leaders; to teach the importance of tolerance and empathy; to promote shared ownership of the mission; to align our curriculum; and to assist in meeting the goals of our Capital Campaign. Of you as parents, we ask for your prayers, your support, and your involvement in meeting our goals.

We thank you for being part of our school family and for all your support and dedication to Christ the King. We are very excited to share a great year with you!

Sincerely,

Paula Smith, Ed.S.
Principal